

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

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OES-03 DLOS-04 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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TAGS: EFIS, JA

SUBJ: FISHERY BRIEFING WITH GOJ OFFICIALS

1. ON NOV 21 US FISHERY TEAM BRIEFED ASAO, DEP DIR GEN, NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU (JAPANESE COMMISSIONER INPFC) AND MATSUURA, JAPAN FISHERY AGENCY, ON RESULTS OF TEAM VISITS TO SEOUL AND TAIPEI. BRIEFING WAS FACTUAL REVIEW OF POINTS MADE BY ALL PARTIES IN THOSE FISHERY DISCUSSIONS.

2. SPECIAL CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED BY MATSUURA OVER REPORTED EXPANSION IN BLACK COD FISHERY PLANNED BY ROK AND ROC. HE STATED THAT OVER PERIOD OF 10 YEARS JAPAN HAD COOPERATED IN CONSERVATION OF BLACK COD RESOURCE BY LIMITING ITS EFFORT TO 22 VESSELS AND THIS COOPERATION ON PART OF JAPAN SHOULD BE GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATION BY US IN PLANNING FUTURE LIMITATIONS ON FOREIGN FISHERY FOR BLACK COD OFF US COAST. TEAM REPLIED THAT MATTER OF ALLOCATION OF HARVESTABLE SURPLUS IS EXPECTED TO BE DETERMINED IN NEXT FEW MONTHS BUT WE WOULD TRANSMIT HIS VIEWS TO AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON. TEAM ALSO POINTED OUT THAT JAPAN IS MARKET FOR BLACK COD WITHOUT THAT MARKET ROK AND ROC WOULD NOT BE EXPANING THEIR FISHERY AND CREATING SEVERE PRESSURES ON RESOURCE.

3. MATSUURA SHOWED CONFUSION REGARDING PROPOSED MEETING IN MAY 1976 BY STATING THAT IF US 200 MILE LEGISLATION DOES NOT
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COME INTO EFFECT BY MAY NO MEETING WOULD BE HELD. WE INDICATED

THIS IS NOT US INTENTION AND THAT MEETING WOULD BE HELD REGARD-
LESS OF STATUS OF 200 MILE LEGISLATION. ALSO, IT WAS POINTED
OUT THAT US HAS NOT YET MADE A DECISION REGARDING THE EFFECTIVE
DATE OF NEW AGREEMENT. AGREEMENT COULD BE MADE EFFECTIVE
IMMEDIATELY UPON SIGNING OR BE MADE EFFECTIVE JAN 1, 1977. LATER
EFFECTIVE DATE APPEARED TO BE PREFERABLE IN TERMS OF PERMITTING
US TO NEGOTIATE OTHER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IN 1976 WITH SAME
EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION DATE OF JAN 1, 1977.

4. TEAM MENTIONED IMPORTANCE OF REACHING GEAR CONFLICT AGREEMENT
WITH JAPAN DURING NEXT BILATERAL DISCUSSION AND MATSUURA POINTED
OUT NEED FOR DIET APPROVAL SUCH AGREEMENTS. TEAM SUGGESTED SEPARATE
AGREEMENT OF LONGER DURATION AS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE, BUT STRESSED
THAT SOME TYPE OF AGREEMENT ON GEAR CONFLICT SETTLEMENT HIGHLY
DESIRABLE.

5. TEAM ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF SEA BIRD MORTALITY IN ILL NETS AND
DESIRABILITY OF CONDUCTING SOME TYPE OF INVESTIGATION THIS PROBLEM,
BEGINNING INITIALLY WITH COLLECTION OF DATA BY JAPANESE FISHERMEN.
NO COMMITMENT WAS MADE BY JAPAN.

6. WITH RESPECT TO ARRANGMENTS AGREED TO AT VANCOUVER INPFC
MEETING, MATSUURA RAISED QUESTION ON PROPOSED RESEARCH CRUISES
IN AREA A WITH 2 PAIRS OF VESSELS. HE ASKED IF IT WERE
NECESSARY THAT ALL VESSELS BE IN AREA DURING SAME 15-DAY PERIOD
OF EACH MONTH RESEARCH CONDUCTED. TEAM INDICATED THAT THIS NOT
NECESSARY, ONLY THAT RESEARCH BE CONDUCTED BY EACH VESSEL FOR
SOME 15-DAY PERIOD EACH MONTH.

7. MATSUURA ASKED ABOUT CRAB FISHERY PROBLEMS IN AREA A AND
POSSIBILITY OF REENTERING FISHERY IF DRIVEN OUT BY ICE PACKS.
TEAM STATED THAT REQUEST SHOULD BE SENT TO JAPANESE EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON FOR TRANSMITTAL TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR ITS CON-
SIDERATION. TEAM INDICATED NO PROBLEM ANTICIPATED ON REQUEST.

8. MATSUURA RAISED QUESTION ON APPLICATION LOS ARTICLE 54 AND
HOW IT WOULD OPERATE INsofar AS JAPANESE HIGH SEAS SALMON FISHERY
IS CONCERNED. TEAM REPLIED THAT THIS MATTER SHOULD BE EXAMINED
CAREFULLY AT MEETING SCHEDULED IN JANUARY BUT ANTICIPATED THAT
EARLY REPORTS FROM FLEET SHOULD PERMIT ACCURATE PREDICTION OF
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BRISTOL BAY SALMON RUN. IF RUN HIGH, JAPANESE FISHERY WOULD BE
ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO FISH RUN AT A LEVEL AGREED TO BY BOTH
SIDES. I LOW, MOTERSHIPS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO LEAVE AREA OF
INTERMINGLING TO AVOID INTERCEPTION OF BRISTOL BAY RUN. AT ANY
RATE, SYSTEM WOULD REPLACE PRESENT PRACTICE OF ESTABLISHING AREA-
TIME CLOSURES.

9. IT WAS CONFIRMED THAT DISCUSSION OF 1976 BRISTOL BAY RUN

WOULD BE HELD SOMEWHERE IN JAPAN, NEAR TOKYO, ON JAN 19-23
TO BE FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSION OF APPLICATION OF LOS ARTICLE 54
THE FOLLOWING WEEK. US SUGGESTED MEETING TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE
JAPAN SOMEWHERE ISN US BUT MATSUURA INDICATED HE POSITIVELY
CANNOT LEAVE JAPAN FOR MEETING DUE TO INTERNAL PROBLEMS THAT
WOULD BE CREATED BY PRESS CURIOSITY RE HIS ABSENCE FROM JAPAN.

10. DISCUSSIONS HELD IN FRIENDLY AND FRANK ATMOSPHERE.
HODGSON

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